

# VOLUNTEER NEWS



## Volunteers Make a Difference

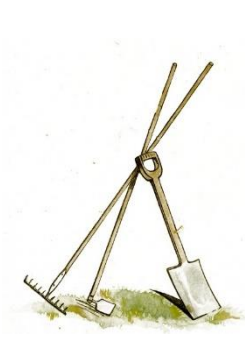
### ***HOW CAN YOU HELP?***



#### **Do you know all the ways to Volunteer with Park & Recreation?**

- Beautify a Park, Nature Preserve or Greenway on a Saturday
- Sign up to be a Youth Sports coach, or to help out with Senior Games
- Participate in a group project on a weekday with your company, school, church, university, agency or neighborhood organization
- Volunteer as a program assistant at a Recreation Center or a Senior Center, or with Therapeutic and Inclusive Recreation Services
- Become a Volunteer or a Master Naturalist at a Nature Center – attend an orientation session to find out how
- **Summer camps will be here in no time** - Ask at your neighborhood Recreation Center how you can help this summer!

**Contact [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov) for more information!**



## **SPECIAL PROJECT!**



***We have a Community Garden that needs some special attention!*** The Smallwood community gardens, just off of Rozelle's Ferry Road, need to be mulched and planted! We will have plants ready to go, provided by the Horticulture Program at the North Jail Greenhouse, and could use a nice group of "Green Thumbs" and willing helpers!

- **LOCATION:** 2624 Roslyn Avenue, Charlotte, 28216
- **DATE/TIME:** Wednesday, May 23 – 9:00am to 12:00 noon

**Please contact [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov) to sign up. Thank you!**



## Help out with Native Plants at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve

6211 Sample Road, Huntersville, 28078

Every Thursday through May 24 at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve – 9:00am-10:30am

**Help our garden grow!** Join us on Thursdays to care for our native plants as they grow and bloom through the spring. Please bring your hat, sunscreen and water bottle!

*Volunteers must be at least age 10; volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/adult over age 21.*

Contact [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov)

or [Anjoli.Reynolds@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:Anjoli.Reynolds@mecklenburgcountync.gov) to sign up!



## Opportunities for Groups

*Park projects for Spring are HERE!* Bring YOUR group out to help keep our Parks looking their best! We welcome any group, from businesses, churches, neighborhoods, fraternities/sororities, Scouts, students, civic groups, etc.

For more information on volunteering for any of our projects, please contact:

- Karen Howard at 980-314-1046 [Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov](mailto:Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov)
- Pamela Thomas at 980-314-1059 [Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov](mailto:Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov)

### SATURDAY PROJECTS

- Hours are 9:00am – 12:00 Noon
- Volunteers 12 years old and up are welcome!
- **All Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 21.**
- You must RSVP to [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov). We need to know the number of volunteers you are bringing and the breakdown between Adults and Youths, if applicable.
- All of the projects are park maintenance and beautification projects, which may include mulching, weeding, pruning and clean-ups. **Be aware that all of these projects involve manual labor!**
- All you need to bring are a pair of gloves, a water bottle and LOTS OF ENERGY!!
- Please go to [www.parkandrec.com](http://www.parkandrec.com) to see where these parks and greenways are located. Once you get to the home page click on either the Parks or the Greenways tab.

### WEEKDAY PROJECTS

- Projects can be arranged for your group, on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday – 9:00am – 12:00 Noon

### SPRING 2018 PROJECT DATES: \*Locations and/or projects subject to change\*

- Saturday, May 5 at McDowell Nature Center
- Saturday, May 12 at Eva Barber Park (playground surface)
- Saturday, May 19 at Sportsplex at Matthews
- Saturday, June 2 at Freedom Park (*tentative*)
- Saturday, June 9 at West Branch Nature Preserve (Davidson)
- Saturday, June 23 at Latta Plantation Nature Preserve
- Saturday, June 30 at Blythe Landing Park



## **SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS ARE GOING STRONG!**

The Games started in mid-April...Continuing through the first week of June, hundreds of active seniors will be taking part in the annual Senior Games and Silver Arts competitions!

We continue to seek friendly, upbeat volunteers to assist local older active adults that are participating in the 2018 Charlotte Mecklenburg Senior Games! Under the guidance of Event Managers, volunteers will be responsible for the following tasks for each event: Set up, welcoming participants, registration, monitoring events, rules enforcement, awards presentations, breakdown and basic clean up. **Volunteers must be at least age 12 – anyone under the age of 16 MUST be accompanied by a parent/adult at all times.** Please dress in appropriate athletic attire with comfortable, closed-toe shoes. All volunteers will receive a T-shirt.

Please contact [SeniorGames@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:SeniorGames@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov) to sign up for events!

*\*Please include your T-shirt size when signing up – Thank you!\**



### **2018 SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS EVENT SCHEDULE**

Event / Location	Date	Start Time	End Time	# Vols
Table tennis - Hawthorne Rec. Center	5/8/18	4:30pm	8:30pm	6
Archery - Mecklenburg Wildlife Club	5/9/18 <i>Raindate:</i> 5/15/18	11:30am	5:30pm	6
Swim Meet – Marion Diehl pool	5/11/18	9:00am	3:00pm	4
Bowling (doubles) - Park 10 lanes	5/14/18	9:30am	1:30pm	2
Bowling (mixed doubles) - Park 10 lanes	5/16/18	9:30am	1:30pm	2
Tennis, Racquetball & Basketball shooting - Jewish Comm'ty Center	5/18/18	9:30am	3:30pm	6
Bowling (singles) - Park 10 lanes	5/21/18	9:30am	1:30pm	2
Performing Arts showcase – Levine Senior Center	5/22/18	4:30pm	8:30pm	2
Horseshoes & Shuffleboard – Nevin Park	5/24/18	9:00am	3:00pm	6
3 on 3 Basketball (Men & Women) - Tom Sykes Rec. Center	5/30/18	5:00pm	9:00pm	4
Billiards - Rack 'em Billiards	5/31/18	11:30am	3:30pm	2
Pickle Ball singles, doubles & mixed doubles - Crews Road Rec. Center (Matthews)	6/2/18 <i>Overflow</i> <i>date:</i> 6/3/18	9:00am	5:00pm	6

## **\*Therapeutic and Inclusive Recreation Services\***

### **MONTHLY THERAPEUTIC RECREATION (TR) DANCE!**

LOCATION: TYVOLA SENIOR CENTER – **NOTE NEW LOCATION**

- 2225 Tyvola Road, 28210

DATE OF EVENT: 3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAY EACH MONTH

- May 18 – *Tiki Party*

- June 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) – *Jungle Boogie*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 5:30PM TO 9:30PM

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: 3 TO 10

*The TR Dance* is the place to be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month! Teens to adults with disabilities dance the night away at these FUN themed events. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up/tear down, serving food and drinks, and helping with crafts, games or other activities. **\*Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.**

**\*Contact [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov) to sign up for these events!\***



### **URGENT NEED! Seeking a Head Cheer Coach!**

**LOCATION: West Charlotte Recreation Center, 2401 Kendall Drive, Charlotte, 28216**

We are looking for an ENTHUSIASTIC, DEDICATED and FUN-LOVING Volunteer to be the Head Cheer Coach at West Charlotte Recreation Center. WE NEED YOU over the summer and through the youth flag football and basketball seasons. This is a long-term commitment for June through next March.

Over the summer, the Coach would hold one evening practice per week. During the sport seasons (September through March) there will also be one night a week of practice, with games on Saturdays.

Saturday game times will vary from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

***Please contact us as soon as possible if you are interested in this AWESOME opportunity to support your Park & Recreation Department, your community and lots of GREAT youth and teens!***

Please contact **Phylicia Reshard**, Recreation Specialist

[Phylicia.Reshard@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov](mailto:Phylicia.Reshard@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov) or 980-314-1120



## **VOLUNTEER ENROLLMENT TIPS**



*We LOVE our Volunteers, and we want to make it EASY for you to come and help your community! Here are a few tips for you... THANK YOU for taking the time to support YOUR Park & Recreation Department!*

YOU DO **NOT** NEED TO REGISTER/JOIN THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

- For one-day events or projects
- For helping with a program ONE time (Example: chaperoning ONE field trip for an after-school program)

YOU **MUST** REGISTER/JOIN THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

- To be a Coach for any sport
- To assist with an ongoing program on a regular basis (Example: tutoring once a week; teaching ESL)

***Please contact [VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov](mailto:VolunteerServices@MeckNC.gov) if you are not sure whether or not you need to enroll for a volunteer project, event or program. We are happy to assist you!***

## CONTACT US!

For more information on volunteering for any of our programs or projects, please contact:

Karen Howard at 980-314-1046

[Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov](mailto:Karen.Howard@MeckNC.gov)

Pamela Thomas at 980-314-1059

[Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov](mailto:Pamela.Thomas@MeckNC.gov)



**PLEASE NOTE:** Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/adult, who is at least 21 years old.

*\*Volunteers working with Therapeutic & Inclusive Recreation Services (TIRS) must be at least 18 years old.*

### *Volunteer Services Program Mission Statement*

1. *To assist Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department staff in providing services needed to offer quality recreation and leisure services to the community by:*

- Supporting direct services provided by salaried department staff.*
- Supplementing administrative, clerical, maintenance and other internal support service functions.*

2. *To provide the Citizens of Mecklenburg County opportunities for Citizen Involvement and to increase their awareness of the Department's Responsibilities, Services and Results.*